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Engineering Educators Go Global to Share Solutions & Resources

New Alliance to Shape International Engineering Education for 21st Century World

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Recognizing that the 21st century global economy requires well-trained and culturally-sensitive engineers, representatives of 31 organizations in 10 countries gathered in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, October 9, 2006 to launch the International Federation of Engineering Education Societies (IFEES). In addition to electing a distinguished leadership team and approving governing documents, the organization's members discussed their overarching goal of building a vibrant, virtual global community to foster collaboration and learning among the world's engineering-education societies.

Through the collaboration of its member societies, IFEES will work to establish effective engineering education processes of high quality around the world to assure a global supply of well-prepared engineering graduates. IFEES will strengthen member organizations and their capacity to support faculty and students. It will attract corporate participation, helping to connect engineering graduates with international corporations that have a pressing need for well-trained engineers who can work in a global environment. IFEES will also enhance the ability of engineering faculty, students and practitioners to understand the varied cultures of the world and work effectively in them.

"IFEES will become the largest world-wide forum of discussion on engineering education, it will increase the awareness of policy makers on engineering education priorities, and it will boost innovation in science and technology," says Claudio Borri, the founding president of IFEES.

"The formation of IFEES underscores the importance of high-quality engineering education to national economies and the global economy," said Wayne Johnson, Vice President, Worldwide University Relations at Hewlett-Packard. "It also spotlights the great significance of technology in today's society. Engineers have played a key role in developing new

information technologies, and those innovations can now be used to advance global engineering education."

The elected leadership team includes a president plus an executive board of 11 individuals, including vice presidents representing four geographic regions of the globe: Americas, Africa/Middle East, Europe, and Asia/Pacific. Claudio Borri was elected IFEES president. Mervyn Jones, Qing Lei, James Melsa, Lueny Morell, and Nitte Shetty were elected as executive board members for the next two years. Kwang Sun Kim, Norbert Kraker, Maria Larrondo-Petrie, Siphon Madonsela, Yuri Pokholkov, and Javier Paez Saavedra were elected as executive board members for the next year.

Short-term goals include the creation of an international engineering education website, coordination and maintenance of a conferences and meetings calendar, development of a high-quality newsletter, and development of an annual publication profiling engineering colleges around the world. IFEES will meet again in October 2007, in conjunction with the 6th American Society for Engineering Education Global Colloquium in Istanbul, Turkey.

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Founding Members and their Representatives:

African Network of Science and Technical Institutions (ANSTI)
Representative: Kwesi Andam

American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)
Representative: Jim Melsa

American Society for Engineers of Indian Origin
Representative: Krishna Vedula

ASEAN Engineering Deans Steering Committee
Representative: Seeram Ramakrishna

Asociacion Nacional de Facultades y Escuelas de Ingenieria (ANFEI)
Representative: Jesus Reyes Garcia

Associacao Brasileira de Ensino de Engenharia (ABENGE)
Representative: Joao Sergio Cordeiro

Board of European Students of Technology (BEST)
Representative: Joao Carlos Nunes Rei

Cartagena Network of Engineering (CNE/RCI?)
Representative: Leonardo Pineda-Serna

Chinese Society for Engineering Education
Representative: Qing Lei (Awaiting Confirmation)

Council of Deans Engineering Faculty of Chile (CONDEFI)
Representative: Paulino Alonso

Council of Engineering Deans of Thailand

Representative: Direk Lavansiri

Dassault Systemes

Representative: Xavier Fouger

Engineering Council of South Africa

Representative: Ravi Nayagar

Engineers for a Sustainable World

Representative: Regina Clewlow

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Hewlett-Packard Company

Representative: Wayne C. Johnson

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Representative: Javier A. Paez Saavedra

Indian Society of Technical Education

Representative: N. R. Shetty

Instituto Superior de Engenharia de Lisboa - Portugal (ISEL)

Representative: Jose Carlos Quadrado

The International Association for Continuing Engineering Education (IACEE)

Representative: Mervyn Jones

International Society for Engineergin Education (IGIP)

Representative: Norbert Kraker

Journal of Engineering Education

Representative: Jack Lohmann

Korean Society of Engineering Education (KSEE)

Representative: Kwang-Sun Kim

Korean Society of Semiconductor Equipment and Technology (KSDET)

Representative: Kwang-Sun Kim

Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions (LACCEI)

Representative: Maria M. Larrondo Petrie

Nucleo de Decanos de Ingenioeria de Venezuela

Representative: Fernando Miralles

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Representative: Yury Pokholkov

SAE Brazil

Representative: Gabor Janos Deak

UGS Corporation

Representative: Hulas King

Union Mexicana de Asociaciones de Ingenieros

Representative: Fernando Echeagaray Moreno

Upsilon Pi Epsilon International Honor Society

Representative: Maria M. Larrondo Petrie

World Federation of Engineering Organizations, Committee on Capacity Building

Representative: Russel Jones